

Message Text

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11
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 FAA-00 PM-04

CAB-05 CIAE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 AID-05

IGA-02 /055 W
----- 129797

P R 250726Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2382
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS BEIRUT 8602

ROME FOR RCAA/FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, EAID, LE
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: BEIRUT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

REF: STATE 287512

1. EMBOFF MET WITH DIRGEN BEYDOUN NOV 24 TO DISCUSS EMERGENCY RUNWAY LIGHTING SYSTEM.

2. GOL APPROVAL. BEYDOUN SAID THAT HE WAS STILL SEEKING GOL APPROVAL OF USAF TEMPORARY SYSTEM. IN ABSENCE OF FUNCTIONING COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WHICH NORMALLY MUST APPROVE ALL FOREIGN AID PROJECTS, HE IS SEEKING APPROVAL FROM OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY. HE IS, NEVERTHELESS, CONFIDENT THAT HE WILL HAVE SUCH APPROVAL IN DAY OR TWO. WE WILL ADVISE ASAP.

3. NON-LIABILITY STATEMENT. BEYDOUN SAID HE BELIEVED THAT HE COULD, HIMSELF, SIGN NON-LIABILITY STATEMENT IN WHATEVER FORM DESIRED BY USG.

4. LENGTH OF RUNWAY LIGHTING. WE AND DIRGEN ASSUME THAT EACH
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UNIT OF SYSTEM OFFERED FOR 9,600 FEET WOULD COVER BOTH SIDES OF

RUNWAY, OR, WITH TWO UNITS, BOTH SIDES OF TOTAL 19,200 FEET OF RUNWAY. PLEASE CONFIRM.

5. IN ADDITION, BEYDOUN WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW MUCH TAXIWAY LIGHTING IS PROVIDED IN USAF UNITS. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. SALE OF EMERGENCY SYSTEM. BEYDOUN IS INTERESTED IN RECEIVING INFORMATION ON COMMERCIAL CONTACTS WHICH MIGHT SELL EMERGENCY SYSTEM TO BIA TO KEEP PERMANENTLY.

7. PERMANENT RUNWAY LIGHTING INSTALLATION. BEYDOUN NOW FEELS IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO REPAIR EXISTING BIA RUNWAY LIGHTING SYSTEM. PENDING COMPLETION OF DAMAGE SURVEY BY HIS TECHNICIANS HE IS DELAYING ACTION ON REQUESTING SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FROM FOREIGN SUPPLIERS.

8. OTHER CONTROL FACILITIES. BEYDOUN SAID THAT RADAR BEACON DDUE NORTH OF PRINCIPAL RUNWAY (NEAR US EMBASSY) NOW DOES WORK.

9. COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN DDRGEN AND POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL SUPPLIERS. BEYDOUN HAS NO ACCESS TO TELEX FACILITIES. HE CAN OCCASIONALLY MAKE OVERSEAS TELEPHONE CALLS. HE CAN ALSO SOMETIMES RECEIVE OVERSEAS TELEPHONE CALLS AT HIS HOME, ON 318911. SUGGEST THAT INTERESTED US FIRMS CONTACT HIM THERE, OR COMMUNICATE THROUGH THIS EMBASSY. BEYDOUN SAID THAT HE WOULD BE TRAVELING THIS COMING WEEKEND IN WESTERN EUROPE IN CONNECTION WITH VARIOUS PURCHASES OF CONTROL EQUIPMENT AND MAY DIRECTLY BE IN TOUCH WITH SOME AMERICAN SUPPLIERS. EMBOFF GAVE HIM GTE SYLVANIA AND GE INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS (REFTEL PARAS 2 A AND B).

10. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST DEPT AND DOD EXPEDITE TRANSMISSION OF LANGUAGE FOR USG NON-LIABILITY DISCLAIMER. WE ASSUME USG WANTS THIS DOCUMENT SIGNED AND IN HAND BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH DELIVERY OF SSSTEM.
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